

BOT 3437 CRN 26678
Plant Diversity & Systematics

Lecturer: Dr. Michael L. Moody

Office Hours: By Appointment

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COURSE MEETING AND LOCATION: MW LARB 208; Tu 1:30-3:20 (B324)

TEXTBOOKS:

- Simpson, M. G. 2010. *Plant Systematics*. Elsevier Academic Press, London

-Harris, J. G. and M. Woolf-Harris. 1994. *Plant identification terminology: an illustrated glossary*. Spring Lake Publishing, Spring Lake, UT

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- identify and understand the diversity of the major groups of land plants, emphasizing flowering plants
- understand the importance of phylogeny in modern day plant taxonomy and evolutionary biology
- understand the importance and use of molecular methods in all aspects of plant systematics
- understand and use plant morphology (what plants look like) in the context of plant taxonomy and classification
- make field identity of many common angiosperm families and some genera common to the southwest
- use your new gained skills to identify plants of the Chihuahuan desert ecosystem using taxonomic keys and other resources

GRADING:

Lab assignments	15%	(Drop - 1 lowest score; start Tu, Jan 30)
In Class (Quizzes, iClicker)	15%	(Drop - 2 lowest quiz; 6 lowest iClicker)
*Exam 1	15%	Mon. Feb. 19
*Exam 2	15%	Mon. Mar. 25
Practical Lab Exam	10%	Tu. Apr. 23
Plant Project	15%	Fri. May 3, 5 pm
*Exam 3	15%	Mon. Apr. 29

Exams will all be taken in class using the Respondus Browser. You will need a computer or tablet in class for the exams.

POLICY ON MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS: No make-up exams will be given for reasons other than **the case of a *documented* emergency** or when a student is on official University business (**documentation required**). Make-up exams will be scheduled at the Instructor's convenience.

POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY: Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. **Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act.** Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline. **Respondus requirements for exams will be strictly upheld and if rules are not followed students will be referred to the Dean of Students.** If you have any questions regarding the university policy on scholastic dishonesty, please contact the Dean of Students.

GUIDANCE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AI prohibited -Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as [ChatGPT](#) or [DALL-E](#), is *not allowed* for assignments in this class. Each student is expected to use critical and creative thinking skills to complete tasks and not rely on computer-generated ideas. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

PARTICIPATION POLICY: Regular participation will be necessary for success in this class.

POLICY OF ONLINE BEHAVIOR: Any student who disrupts or uses inappropriate online behavior will be warned and/or referred to the Dean of Students. This includes any Chat groups formed for this course.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY: The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students who become pregnant may also request accommodations, in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations and University policy. Accommodations that constitute undue hardship are not reasonable. **To make a request, please register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS).** Contact CASS at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal. **You need to contact me to arrange accommodations as per CASS agreement.**

COURSE RESOURCES: UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Please refer to the QR code for a listing of campus resources.



***PLANT DIVERSITY & SYSTEMATICS (BOT 3437)**

WEEK	TOPIC	READINGS	LABS
W1: Jan 17	Intro Plant Systematics		No Lab
W2: Jan 22-24	Systematics Basics Phylogeny	Ch. 2 & 3	No Lab
W3: Jan 29-31	No lecture Mon. Veg. Morphology	Ch. 19 & 9	L1 – Systematics
W4: Feb 5-7	Intro. Flowering Plants Repro. Morphology	Ch. 9	L2 – Vegetative Morphology
W5: Feb 12-14	Species formation, retention Molecular markers and DNA fingerprinting	Ch. 9, 13,19	L3 – Flowers, Fruits
W6: Feb 19-21 Exam 1 (Mon.)	Basal Angiosperms	TBA	L4 – TBD
W7: Feb 26-28	Magnoliids Early Monocots	Ch. 7	L5 – Basal Angiosperms
W8: Mar 4-6	Monocots-Orchids Monocots – Grasses, Sedges	Ch. 7	L6 – Monocots 1
W9: Mar 11-13	Spring Break		
W10: Mar 18-20	Southwest plant diversity Early Eudicots	Ch. 8	L7 – Early Eudicots, Electronic keys, etc.
W11: Mar 25-27 Exam 2 (Mon.)	Basal core eudicots	Ch. 8	L8 – TBD
W12: Apr 1-3	Caryophyllales Rosids 1 – Fabids	Ch. 8	L9 – Rosids
W13: Apr 8-10	Rosids 2 – Malvids Asterids 1	Ch. 8	L10 – Rosids
W14: Apr 15-17	Asterids 2 Lamiids	Ch. 8	L11 – Asterids
W15: Apr 22-24	History Modern Systematics	Ch. 4 & 5	Prac Exam
W16: Apr 29 Exam 3 (Mon.)	No Lecture Wednesday	TBA	No Lab

***Subject to modification**